GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1234
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
INDO BANGLA JOINT RIVERS COMMISSION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Bangla Joint Commission met in Kolkata recently;

(b) if so, the precise issues discussed indicating the proposals relating to Ichhamati river; and

(c) the decisions taken and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Eighteenth meeting of Standing Committee of Indo- Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held on 30th May, 2005 at Kolkata. Earlier, the Standing Committee visited a part of reach of the common border stretch of the river Ichamati between Angrail and Kalanchi in the district of North 24 Parganas of West Bengal on 29th May, 2005.

(b) & (c) The Committee discussed the matter in detail including the proposals for removing encroachments in the river and pilot dredging in the above reach as an immediate measure and directed the Indo-Bangladesh Task Force for Flood management in Ichhamati basin to submit its proposal/work programme along with detailed design and plan for dredging operation before the resumed meeting of the Standing Committee. The Task Force discussed these issues and submitted its report which was further discussed during the resumed meeting of Standing Committee held on 19th June, 2005 at New Delhi. However, due to difference in opinion an agreed work plan could not be finalized.